



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

MEETING DATE: May 1, 2023

PREPARED BY: Eric T. Werner, Chief of Police

AGENDA ITEM: Contract approval for First Response Mental Health PeerConnect software application to support Maple Grove Police Department’s peer support program

PREVIOUS ACTIONS:
None

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

Motion to approve and authorize the chief of police to execute a three-year agreement with First Response Mental Health to provide PeerConnect: Peer Support, Health, and Wellness Tool software application services.

COMMENTS:

The police department is implementing a peer support program to support officer and non-sworn staff wellness. The program augments other mental-health resources provided to staff by the police department and the city’s wellness program. The League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust Peer Support Advisory Board states, “peer support programs are an important resource where trained peers provide emotional, social, and practical support to their colleagues.”

The peer support program is in partnership with the Brooklyn Park Police Department known as the Northwest Twin Cities MN Police Consortium. A multi-jurisdiction approach to peer support is a recommended best practice. The Maple Grove program was developed from consultation with the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust and the Southwest Metro Consortium led by the Minnetonka Police Department and includes Eden Prairie, Edina, Hopkins, St. Louis Park, and Bloomington police departments. The Southwest Metro Consortium recommended the First Response Mental Health software application, which fostered the success of their peer support program. That application allowed for much easier access, efficiency, and anonymity in seeking peer support help.

The three-year agreement is \$15,750 and covers 105 members of our agency. The cost for each year is \$5,250. The contract cost for 2023 and 2024, or years one and two, will be paid utilizing the police criminal forfeiture account. The contract cost for 2025, or year three, will be budgeted from police general fund dollars.

City Attorney Justin Templin reviewed and approved the contract.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: First Response Mental Health three-year contract

Attachment B: League of Minnesota Cities PTSD and Mental Health Peer Support and the Insurance Trust handout